Serial No. 09/669,384 Reply to Office Action of July 8, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 10 of page 7 as follows:

For that purpose, the form of the hidden silhouette is roughly estimated at a high speed on the basis of the assumed position/posture of an object in a frame, using an object model and the known observing position. It can be discriminated by the following formula whether or not a point on the object surface corresponding to the model point P is observable or not from the observing the position O at the assumed position of the targeted object (see FIG. 9).

